

STATEMENT OF HONORABLE EDWARD H. REES, (R., KANSAS), RANKING MEMBER OF THE POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CONCERNING THE REDUCTION IN TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONNEL IN THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. OCTOBER 20, 1955.

"Secretary of Defense Wilson should be commended by his forthright and aggressive action to reduce expenditures in the Defense Department.

"It is particularly important that these reductions in expenditures are to be on a selective basis and to be carried out in a manner in which they will not adversely affect our national defense.

"The order of Secretary Wilson is in line with my statement made on September 19th in Washington in which I pointed out that government employment can and should be reduced at least 10 per cent without any impairment of essential government services.

"I further stated that this reduction could be accomplished largely by attrition and that every department and agency head should establish a firm policy of reviewing each vacancy and make certain the function is necessary before the position is filled.

"I hope and expect the heads of other departments and agencies will follow the lead of Secretary Wilson and announce similar programs for better utilization of manpower and reduction in the total number of employees and a substantial savings in our expenditures for civilian personnel, now running approximately \$10 billion a year."